

suggest to our friend who was so amused at "coniferous" for "cruciferous" in *Pringlea*, that he might furnish us with entertainment as well when it can be obtained out of an original article, as when an Editor is tempted to do some careless stuffing. The Editor was inundated by jokes, in the coniferous case,—but does not appear to have had one drop of fun squeezed out for him when A. G. describes the seed vessel of *Leavenworthia stylosa* as "two inches wide." We shall have to ask for a new committee on comedy if our friend so soon runs dry.—*

CRATÆGUS TOMENTOSA, L., VAR. PUNCTATA, GR.—On the east bank of Fish Creek, a few miles north of this place, there is a Hawthorn (*C. tomentosa*, var., *punctata*) which is quite as remarkable for its size as some more celebrated big trees. The thorn divides near the ground into four trunks. The largest trunk measures *fourteen* inches in diameter four feet from the ground. The other divisions are smaller, but as large as this variety usually grows, one being six inches in diameter and the others less. The tree is about 20 ft. high.

This variety of thorn is very common here, and behaves like a true species.—ERWIN F. SMITH, *Hubbardston, Mich.*

IPOMÆA PANDURATA.—The undersigned wants seeds of *Ipomœa pandurata*, capable of germination, this spring, if any one has a few on hand.—A. GRAY.

WINTER HERBORIZATIONS ON INDIAN RIVER, FLORIDA.—During January and February of the present year the writer, accompanied by Dr. J. J. Brown, spent four weeks on Indian River in studying its natural history and collecting whatever of interest offered. Our observations in that portion of Florida began at Sand Point—opposite Cape Canaveral, latitude 28 deg. 30 min., and extended to Jupiter Inlet, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles by our route. Indian River so called, is more properly a vast lagoon, being connected with the ocean by two inlets—one at Fort Capron and the other at Jupiter. The width of this inland sea varies from two to five miles except at the Indian River and Jupiter Narrows. For more than one hundred miles merely a strip of sand from one hundred yards to half a mile in width separates the lagoon from the Atlantic. This portion is largely composed of sand beaches and low flats. The eastern shore where depressed shows a dense growth of the red and black Mangrove, while further back the Cabbage Palmetto (*Sabal Palmetto*) grows solitary or in clumps. Occasionally rich hummock lands are met with where may be found a number of peculiarly southern and sub-tropical species of trees and plants. In such places trailing vines with ferns and mosses, fill up the back ground. The "Smilax" and "Wait a bit" bid you halt! The *Cereus* growing in long climbing spikes frequently obstructs the path. The small area of pine barrens and a narrow border next the ocean abound in Saw Palmetto (*Sabal*

serrulata). The surface is underlaid by "Coquina" throughout the whole length of the river, and this for some miles on the western shore forms bluffs twenty or thirty feet in height. The lower part of the formation is thoroughly cemented and hard. No outcroppings show a geological group older than the Post Pliocene or fossils different from living forms. The western shore stands in pleasing contrast to the eastern in its high coquina banks, back of which are extensive pine barrens. These high bluffs are replaced further south by sand ridges and hills of considerable elevation—sometimes at quite a distance from the river. A number of creeks and three rivers coming in from the west materially vary the surface geology of the country where they have broken through the natural deposits. The vegetation on this side is of the same character as that of the east shore with a few exceptions. But that tropical tree, the Mangrove, will not be found at Sand Point, neither for many miles below on the west shore, on account of occasional frosts. It grows, however, immediately opposite and southward, being protected from chilly blasts by the broad expanse of the lagoon. Species of the *Citrus* family, the banana, pine-apple, *Papaya*, *Guava*, etc., seem to attain more perfection here than elsewhere in Florida. I have never seen the black Mangrove (*Avicennia tomentosa*) grow to a greater size and height than along Jupiter Narrows. Such in brief are a few prominent features of the country as they appeared to us in our journey by sail boat and from examinations made at thirteen regular camps and a number of landings. Probably, as my friend Mr. Curtiss says, the character of vegetation and species is not so different from the St. Johns country. Familiar northern farms will frequently greet the eye, but not abundantly. The arborescent species are the most interesting as well as the most valuable, and afford a number of rare woods, such as the Crab, Boxwood, Buttonwood, Satinwood, Ironwood (several species), Gum, etc. All of these as well as the Mangrove, are capable of a high polish, and sooner or later will be utilized. My collections during the trip numbered one hundred and six species found in flower, besides some not identified. In addition I secured a number of rare wood specimens with their foliage, one of the most prized being a section of the *Quassia* tree (*Simaruba glauca*). Also alive, two *Epidendrums* and an *Orchid* found at Jupiter which is exactly the same as one from Mexico, but which no one has ever seen in Florida before. Its name is yet undetermined. Live fern roots, among them the giant *Acrostichum aureum*, have been successfully transplanted to my greenhouse in the north. I desire here to express my satisfaction in comparing notes with A. H. Curtiss, Esq., at his beautiful home, Talleyrand Place, on the St. Johns, near Jacksonville, where, with his mother, he is doing good work for botanical science, one of the results being the addition of a dozen or so of new species to the Southern Flora. Mrs. Curtiss has also enriched Algology by rare finds and new species.—W. W. CALKINS.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.—*Revision of the Genus Pinus, and descrip-*